

Workgroup Report		At what stage is this document in the process?
IGT177: Aligning IGT “must read” obligations within the IGT UNC		01 Modification 02 Workgroup Report 03 Draft Modification Report 04 Final Modification Report
Purpose of Modification: This Modification will maintain the existing obligation on IGTs to obtain a meter reading (commonly called the “must read” obligation) following non-provision of a Valid Meter Reading by a Shipper, by removing reference to UNC TPD M 5.10 from IGT UNC Part E – Meter Reading, 11 (Failure to obtain readings), and aligning the total relevant text within the IGT UNC.		
	The Workgroup recommends that this Modification should: - be subject to Self-Governance procedures; and - proceed to Consultation. The Panel will consider this Workgroup Report on 27th June 2025. The Panel will consider the recommendations and determine the appropriate next steps.	
	High Impact: None	
	Medium Impact: None	
	Low Impact: IGT UNC, Shippers, Suppliers, Transporters, Consumers, CDSP	

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Timetable		 iGTUNC@Gemserv.com
Modification timetable:		 02070901044
Modification raised	21 st May 2025	Proposer:
Initial consideration by Workgroup	12 th June 2025	Aleksis Butler
Amended Modification considered by Workgroup	-	 Aleksis.butler@bu-uk.co.uk
Workgroup Report presented to Panel	27 th June 2025	Other:
Draft Modification Report issued for consultation	30 th June 2025	Charlotte Gilbert
Consultation Close-out for representations	21 st July 2025	 Charlotte.gilbert@bu-uk.co.uk
Variation Request presented to Panel	-	
Final Modification Report available for Panel	22 nd August 2025	
Modification Panel decision	29 th August 2025	

1 Summary

What

Prior to Project Nexus in 2017, all IGT network governance was contained within the IGT UNC. Following Nexus implementation, a 'pointing to' the UNC approach for some governance was adopted. Since 2017 it has been demonstrated that some instances of this approach work and some do not. The IGT UNC makes reference to the UNC in relation to Meter Reading, specifically in this case of failure to obtain readings. This Proposal intends to align the obligation of IGTs undertaking "must reads" in the event that a Shipper does not provide a Valid Meter Reading as required by TPD M 5.7, 5.8 and 5.9, and to ensure it is a stand-alone within the IGT UNC.

The "must reads" process is designed to ensure that actual meter readings are routinely obtained for every gas Supply Point. It is a mechanism that ensures that there is at least some level of guaranteed data in the event Shippers are unable to provide a Valid Meter Reading.

By removing the UNC reference and aligning the relevant legal text within the IGT UNC, it allows this area of governance to stand alone and to not be impacted by changes to the UNC. This would ensure the robustness of an existing obligation on IGTs to obtain meter reads where Shippers have failed to do so.

Why

[UNC Modification 0908](#)¹ looks to remove the "must reads" obligation on Large Transporter networks.

There is a risk that proposed changes to UNC TPD M 5.10 will inadvertently and incorrectly remove an existing obligation on IGT networks. This is not the intent of UNC 0908 and aligning whole text within the IGT UNC will prevent this occurrence.

How

The existing provisions within UNC TPD Section M that need to be suitably placed under the IGT UNC are as follows:

- 5.10
- 5.10.1
- 5.10.2 (a) and (b)
- 5.10.3 (a) and (b)
- 5.10.4
- 5.10.5
- 5.10.6 (a), (b) and (c)
- 5.10.8

¹ 0908 - Removal of DNO meter reading obligations resulting from non-provision of a Valid Meter Reading

2 Governance

Justification for Self-Governance

The Modification meets the requirements for Self-Governance, and there are no changes of process for, nor additional governance on, any IGT or Shipper parties. This is merely ensuring that Code reflects the current obligations and is not subject to unintended consequences of UNC0908.

It will have no material effect on:

- (aa) existing or future gas consumers;
- (bb) competition in the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes or any commercial activities connected with the shipping, transportation or supply of gas conveyed through pipes;
- (cc) the operation of one or more pipe-line system(s);
- (dd) matters relating to sustainable development, safety or security of supply, or the management of market or network emergencies;
- (ee) the uniform network code governance procedures or the network code modification procedures; and is unlikely to discriminate between different classes of parties to the uniform network code/relevant gas transporters, gas shippers or DN operators.

Requested Next Steps

This Modification should:

- be subject to Self-Governance;
- be assessed by one Workgroup; and
- proceed to Consultation

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Workgroup, having considered discussions and conclusions on the Modification, considered the governance route for IGT177.

The Proposer advised that what had been discussed by the Workgroup did not change their views with regards to the Modification being progressed as a Self-Governance Modification Proposal. The Workgroup agreed with the Proposer that IGT177 should be subject to Self-Governance for the reasons set out above.

3 Why Change?

The IGT UNC frequently cross-references UNC legal text rather than having stand-alone text within the IGT UNC.

In this particular instance, there is a risk that it could lead to an unintended consequence, where a UNC Modification is looking to remove an obligation on Large Transporter networks. This Modification would rectify the issue by self-containing the obligation for IGTs to ensure “must reads” are taken where a Shipper has not provided a Valid Meter Reading.

4 Code Specific Matters

Technical Skillsets

N/A

Reference Documents

[UNC – Transportation Principal Document, Section M – Supply Point Metering](#)

[IGT UNC Part E](#)

5 Solution

To ensure that an existing IGT UNC obligation is not inadvertently and incorrectly removed from the IGT UNC, the relevant text within IGT UNC Part E – Meter Reading, will be amended to align as stand-alone governance for this existing obligation.

The existing provisions within UNC TPD Section M will be merged with the text already existing within the IGT UNC Part E – Meter Reading, 11 (Failure to obtain readings). The Draft Legal Text document on the [IGT177 webpage](#).

The UNC TPD Section M paragraphs to be merged into the IGT UNC are as follows:

- 5.10
- 5.10.1
- 5.10.2 (a) and (b)
- 5.10.3 (a) and (b)
- 5.10.4
- 5.10.5
- 5.10.6 (a), (b) and (c)
- 5.10.8

For clarity, these changes will correctly encompass the changes made to IGT UNC as part of IGT159.

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Proposer provided the Workgroup with an overview of the Modification, including the intent of UNC0908 as set out within this document.

A Workgroup member referenced the principle of UNC0908, which is looking to improve the scrutiny around meter reading performance and therefore the area of Code changing will be referencing the Performance Assurance Committee (PAC). It should be assumed that these new provisions will also apply to IGTs. They noted discussions regarding the positives of this Modification, though this could be dampened by IGT177.

The Chair noted that whilst UNC0908 might say that there may be a better approach, it should not detract from the benefits of IGT177. The member responded that IGT177 is pre-empting the fact that these provisions will be removed from Code.

The Proposer advised that they understood the argument, however the proposed protection is based on the information available to us today and the provisions that are in Code today. There is nothing stopping UNC0908 from bringing other improvements to industry and there is nothing stopping anyone raising a Modification to the IGT UNC to replicate that in the future, when there can be an evidence-based

assessment of both approaches. They added that there is evidence to suggest that not all Shippers agree with UNC0908 and that the PAC may not agree with it either, so there are arguments for and against and introducing the protection of current provisions into the IGT UNC does not impact that.

There were no further comments or areas of consideration were raised by the Workgroup with regards to the solution.

6 Impacts & Other Considerations

Does this Modification impact a Significant Code Review (SCR) or other significant industry change projects, if so, how?

This Modification will not impact a Significant Code Review (SCR), nor will it impact a significant industry change project.

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Workgroup considered the potential impacts of this Modification on an SCR or a significant industry change project. The Workgroup agreed with the Proposer that this Modification will not have an impact on either.

Consumer Impacts

What is the current consumer experience?

The consumer experience of the “must read” process is a positive experience. Consumers are likely to be unaware if a Shipper fails to obtain a Meter Reading within the defined period of time, as a read will be obtained by the IGT, thereby maintaining an accurate record of their consumption as possible.

This obligation acts in two ways:

- i) by acting as an incentive on Suppliers to undertake regular meter readings and,
- ii) as a backstop when the Supplier fails to obtain regular reads. The meter read undertaken by the IGT acts as a safeguard, helping prevent the consumer from facing periods of estimated billing.

The removal of cross referencing the UNC in relation to this matter and embodying the legal text into the IGT UNC will ensure these consumer benefits are not inadvertently and incorrectly threatened.

What would the new consumer experience be?

There will be no change to the consumer experience. This is merely to safeguard this process from being removed as an unintended consequence of proposed changes to the relevant part of the UNC.

Impact of the change on Consumer Benefit Areas

Area	Identified Impact
Improved safety and reliability	None
Lower bills than would otherwise be the case	<u>Proposer</u> : Positive <u>Workgroup</u> : Neutral

Reduced environmental damage	None
Improved quality of service	<u>Proposer</u> : Positive <u>Workgroup</u> : Neutral
Benefits for society as a whole	None

Other Considerations

The “must read” obligation is not a new process and has existing benefits to the consumer.

The “must reads” process helps provide more accurate billing for customers, as bills are based on actual reads rather than estimates, creating a better consumer experience. By improving the quality and timeliness of meter data by undertaking the “must reads” obligation, it helps reduce Unidentified Gas (UG).

There is a risk that these existing benefits to the consumer could be unintentionally removed by Modifications to the UNC. This would have a consequent negative impact on the consumer experience.

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Proposer provided their rationale regarding the positive impacts on consumers and other considerations as set out above to the Workgroup. They noted that the positives are from the perspective of protecting the positives in place already via the existing Code. So, these benefits will be realised by protecting current processes and obligations.

A member noted that as this Modification is only looking to allow for current processes to continue, they do not feel that there is a positive impact. Another member agreed, thought they noted that nothing within the process is changing, and they are happy with this.

The Proposer agreed that whilst nothing is changing, IGT177 is protecting the existing benefits from being inadvertently removed as a result of UNC0908.

The Workgroup considered the rationale provided by the Proposer. The Workgroup agreed with the principle of the Modification, though three Workgroup members felt that the Modification had a neutral impact on benefits to consumers.

There were no other views provided by the Workgroup and it agreed that the Workgroup’s view on the Modification is that it has a neutral impact on consumers.

Cross-Code Impacts

This Modification does not propose to change the process, so we do not foresee any cross-code impacts. UNC Modification 0908 is not intended to include IGTs, who operate under a different process to Large Transporters.

UNC	☐
REC	☐
Other	☐
None	☒

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Workgroup considered the potential cross-code impacts as a result of the Modification.

The Chair suggested that UNC0908 should record an impact on the IGT UNC due to the potential unattended consequential impacts of DNOs pulling out of the Must Reads process. They added that if IGT177 is not implemented some action may be needed under the IGT UNC due to the removal of UNC provisions currently referenced within the IGT UNC.

The Proposer agreed with this view. The Workgroup agreed that IGT177 will not have any cross-code impact. However, it was acknowledged that UNC0908 is discussing the same area of legal drafting and that a cross-code impact on the IGT UNC should be noted.

Central Data Service Provider (CDSP)

A member noted that there is currently no reference to potential CDSP impacts within the Proposal Form. They acknowledged that, due to the transitional nature to this Modification, you could argue that there are no CDSP impacts as all this is doing is lifting existing Code. However, there may be costs in the future. The Member asked the Proposer for clarification on the approach to the legal text and whether it is a simple lift of text or if anything has been excluded. The Proposer confirmed that they have lifted the relevant paragraphs, only making minor amendments to terms etc. to make it IGT UNC relevant.

The Proposer added that if discussions under UNC0908 continue in line with the current solution approach then the must read obligations will be removed for the DNOs. They added that they would still expect the current arrangements and CDSP processes to remain for IGTs regardless of the UNC Modification.

The member added that this Modification seeks to keep the status quo meaning that if UNC0908 goes through there may be a chain of consequences as the CDSP may need to take action as a result of DNO's pulling out of this process. There could be a point where funding splits need to be discussed as part of the DSC change process. Though not as a result of this Modification.

The Proposer agreed that it is important to note these impacts but recognise that these discussions need to happen under UNC0908. They clarified that there will be no additional costs to any parties, including IGTs, as a result of IGT177. What transpires as a result of UNC0908 would transpire regardless. The Workgroup agreed with this view.

Environmental Impacts

No environmental impacts have been identified.

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Workgroup considered the potential environmental impacts of this Modification and agreed there are none.

7 Relevant Objectives

Impact of the Modification on the Relevant Objectives:

Relevant Objective	Identified impact
(A) Efficient and economic operation of the pipe-line system	None
(B) Co-ordinated, efficient and economic operation of (i) the combined pipe-line system; and/or (ii) the pipe-line system of one or more other relevant gas transporters	None
(C) Efficient discharge of the licensee's obligations	None
(D) Securing of effective competition: (i) between relevant shippers; (ii) between relevant suppliers; and/or (iii) between DN operators (who have entered into transportation agreements with other relevant gas transporters) and relevant shippers	None
(E) Provision of reasonable economic incentives for relevant suppliers to secure that the domestic customer supply security standards... are satisfied as respects the availability of gas to their domestic customers	None
(F) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code	Positive
(G) Compliance with the Regulation and any relevant legally binding decisions of the European Commission and/or the Agency for the Cooperation of Energy Regulators	None

Proposer's Rationale

(F) Promotion of efficiency in the implementation and administration of the Code

The IGT UNC frequently cross-references UNC legal text rather than replicating the text again within the IGT UNC. This Modification would remove the necessity to cross-reference and help self-contain the obligation for IGTs to ensure "must reads" are taken where a Shipper does not provide a Valid Meter Reading. The embodiment of the obligation would help solidify the IGT UNC, allowing an easier understanding of the obligations required for "must reads" with the legal text being self-contained. Administering the Code would be subsequently made easier as the legal text would be clearly set out, and not prone to unintended changes derived from the UNC. IGTs will continue to operate as a backstop to improve settlement, in undertaking Meter Reads which have been missed.

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

A member referenced Objective (F) noted that there has been some debate across codes around how this should be applied. However, they feel that the rationale provided by the Proposer is a good example of benefits under this Objective. They feel that from a pure Code perspective, what the IGTs are seeking

to do here is exert their right to maintain an element of Code and specifically move it within the IGT UNC in light of UNC0908 and the potential consequences.

They noted the Proposer's rational stating that "IGTs will continue to operate as a backstop to improve settlement, in undertaking Meter Reads which have been missed". They feel that this may be a stretch so far as how it fits within Objective (F), as this element of their rationale may only be realised if UNC0908 is implemented. However, they do feel that the Modification has a positive impact on Objective (F).

Some Workgroup members agreed with this view. The Workgroup agreed that IGT177 has a positive on Objective (F).

8 Implementation

Proposed Implementation Approach

The Proposer recommend that the Modification be implemented as soon as feasibly possible. The earlier the Modification is implemented, the less vulnerable the "must reads" governance process on IGT networks is to unintended consequences resulting from proposed changes to the UNC.

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Workgroup considered the discussions and conclusions on the Modification and the view that the Modification should proceed as a Self-Governance Modification Proposal.

The Code Administrator asked for views on the implementation in light of UNC0908 and whether the Modification should be implemented as an ad-hoc release or as part of the next available scheduled Release, which would be November 2025.

The Proposer suggested that, on consideration of the potential dependencies on UNC0908 implementation that IGT177 should be implemented as part of an ad-hoc release.

The Code Administrator confirmed that as the legal text as written is not complex, it would be able to accommodate the ad-hoc release but that it would be subject to the usual 15 working day Appeal Window.

The Workgroup agreed with the Proposer that IGT177 should be implemented as part of an ad-hoc release and as soon as possible following approval and the 15 Working Day Appeal Window.

9 Legal Text

Text Commentary

The existing provisions within UNC TPD Section M will be merged with the text already existing within the IGT UNC Part E – Meter Reading, 11 (Failure to obtain readings). The relevant proposed legal text can be found in the legal text document attached.

The UNC TPD Section M paragraphs to be merged into the IGT UNC are as follows:

- 5.10
- 5.10.1
- 5.10.2 (a) and (b)
- 5.10.3 (a) and (b)
- 5.10.4

- 5.10.5
- 5.10.6 (a), (b) and (c)
- 5.10.8

Suggested Text

For the suggested legal text for IGT UNC Part E – Meter Reading, 11. Failure to obtain readings, please refer to the Draft Legal Text document on the [IGT177 webpage](#) that contains the suggested legal text.

Workgroup Discussions and Conclusions (May 2025)

The Workgroup considered the legal text provided by the Proposer.

A member asked the proposer to confirm that the intent of the Modification is to simply take what is currently referenced within the UNC and put it into the IGT UNC. The Proposer confirmed that this was indeed the intent of the Modification.

The Workgroup agreed that the legal text provided delivered the intent of the solution.

10 Recommendations

Workgroup's Recommendation to Panel

The Workgroup asks Panel to agree that:

- This Self-Governance Modification should proceed to consultation.